

BOARD OF CONTROL.

First Meeting of the New Commission.

Its Scope Is More Comprehensive Than Even Its Authors Dreamed It would Be.

The new board of control created by the recent legislature held its first meeting yesterday and organized by the election of Governor L. C. Hughes as president. By the terms of the law citizen member, M. H. McCord, is the secretary.

Little business of importance was transacted. M. H. McCord was made purchasing and paying agent.

The act creating the new board abolished all of the old boards and with them, of course, their secretaries and treasurers and the duties heretofore devolved upon those officers are to be performed by the secretary of the new board.

Upon an examination of the new law and the repealing clauses contained therein, it is believed the new board has the authority to fix all salaries of those connected with the various institutions, even those fixed by law.

Section 9 of the new law says: "Said board of control after qualifying and entering upon its duties shall have full control over the territorial insane asylum, the territorial reform school and the territorial prison, together with all the property, buildings and lands belonging thereto or that may hereafter be acquired."

Under this section the duties of the various superintendents of these institutions are virtually confined to the inside walls of the different buildings.

The board decided to begin work at once on the veranda at the asylum, and Architect Heinlein has been engaged to make the plans. They will also commence work at once on the foundation, which work will be under the supervision of Mr. Sunderland. The duties of the new board are more far-reaching and comprehensive than even its authors conceived them to be.

BISMARCK'S BIRTHDAY.

Its Celebration by the Germans of Phoenix.

If the reichstag did refuse to recognize the birthday of Prince Bismarck, it will be celebrated in one way or another by four-fifths of the German speaking people throughout the world. They take a broader view of the prince's life and work than the reichstag did and they do not forget that Bismarck made the unification of Germany possible and her greatness inevitable.

The occasion will be appropriately observed in Phoenix as shown by the following notice issued yesterday:

The eightieth birthday of Prince Otto Von Bismarck on Monday next, the first day of April, will be appropriately celebrated on the evening of that day, at the Phoenix opera house.

The entertainment will consist of a patriotic speech by F. W. Gatzke, and sections from Offenbach, Liszt and others, rendered by Prof. Arriola's orchestra.

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COUNTY CLASSIFICATION.

The Law Becomes Effective in Thirty Days.

Something seems to have been overlooked in the passage of house bill No. 9, for the reclassification of counties. That something has been discovered in Cochise county which under the law becomes a third-class county. There were two opinions as to when it would go into effect, whether on and after its passage or in 1897. The dispute was referred by the Tombstone Prospector to Secretary Bruce, who says that by anything contained in itself the law not go into effect at all. No time is specified.

Governor Hughes, however, said last night that the absence of a specified time for making the act effective does not invalidate. It is provided by law that in the event of such an absence a law will go into effect, thirty days after its passage.

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HANDICAPPED BY DUKEDOM.

One Grade of British Nobility Which Has Never Been Politically Popular.

We may note a peculiarity in the English feeling about titles, of which we have never seen a reasonable explanation, says the London Spectator. The political populace dislike the title of duke. Some of the ablest peers in politics have been dukes; but to be a duke weighs instead of lightening a man in the great race for power. There is a widely diffused impression, the origin of which we cannot trace, that a duke is sure to be a little stupid, that a brilliant duke is, in fact, an impossibility. The title is a positive drawback to the duke of Devonshire, and a duke of Derby would never have been described as a "Rupert of Debate." The duke of Argyll, who is an intellectual athlete, would have been far more completely recognized as earl of Argyll; and we are not sure that the dukedom has not impeded one or two promising politicians in the house of lords. Certainly a duke rarely rises there, unless he becomes known to the country before the title crushed him. Is it that the rank overpowers the popular imagination till men cease to see the person—a thing which constantly happens in the case of kings—or is it that men can never forget the special rank by merging it into the simpler and more familiar title of "lord?" No peer except a duke is invariably mentioned by the title which marks his grade. We have no idea of the true explanation, but we know that a political earl who accepted a dukedom would lose heavily in popular estimation, and that even a marquis, like Lord Salisbury, who would alter his rank so little, would find that the coronet of strawberry leaves acted, to a certain extent, as an extinguisher, while if his son never entered the house of commons he would have to struggle against some inexplicable weight. The fact is one of the very oddest in the whole of the odd history of the influence of rank, but of its reality we entertain no doubt whatever. To say "that is a dual opinion," is to say that it is an opinion that no one in our days need consider.

BROILED STURGEON.

That is the Way the Fisherman Eats It If He Can Get a Young Fish.

"In the minds of most people," said a man with an expert knowledge of fish and fishing, "the sturgeon is doubtless associated with the idea of a big fish only; they think of him when he is well grown and has come to weigh seventy-five to two hundred and fifty pounds, and I suppose that most people, when they think of sturgeon as a food, think only of smoked sturgeon, which is the form in which it is most commonly placed in the market. To those familiar with the fish in these forms only the idea of broiled sturgeon might seem humorously preposterous, but broiled is the way the fisherman eats it if he can get a sturgeon of the right size.

"The flesh of the old sturgeon is coarse and rough; that of the young sturgeon is finer and much more palatable. If you take a sturgeon that weighs eight or ten pounds and cut out steaks five or six inches back from the head and broil them you will find them very good. But the sturgeon is rather oily and you can't eat very much of them. Young sturgeon is sometimes fried, but not so often; it is better broiled; but along the water front men make a stew of sturgeon, with onions, that is by no means unpalatable."

HANDSOME, BUT TIGHT.

A Young Lieutenant's Uncomfortable Evening in Society.

Society belles are not alone in their liking for personal adornment. Young soldiers, and brave ones at that, are sometimes as vain of their fine clothes as any schoolgirl, says Youth's Companion. Gen. Du Barail, writing his "Souvenirs," lingers with fond particularity over the splendid new uniform he put on when he became a lieutenant. "Five minutes after I received my promotion," he says, "the best tailor in Algiers was taking my measure for my officer's uniform."

Then he goes into full details about the red spencer trimmed with black braid, the blue cap, the sash of red silk, from which dangled acorns of gold, and especially the sky-blue pantaloons. "It would be hard to imagine a uniform more coquet," he declares. This gorgeous rig he was to wear for the first time at a dinner given by the governor general in honor of the men newly promoted; and he could hardly wait for the time to come. When he came to put the garments on, however, he found himself literally in a strait.

For three years he had been going about in loose Arabian costume. His new clothes were so dreadfully tight! He got into his jacket only with the vigorous assistance of three of his companions, who had to unite all their forces in order to button the thing together.

He entered the general's house with his arms standing out "like basket-handles," and all in all felt as awkward as any mortal well could. He neither ate nor drank. "It seemed to me," he says, "that at the first mouthful of bread or the first swallow of water, everything would burst. And when, as it happened, the governor general looked in my direction, with his big round eyes, like coffee-cups, I felt a foolish desire to hide myself under the table. Ah! for that evening, the fashion made me suffer!"



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The Sense of Feeling Deadened in Critical Moments.

It is comforting to know that in extreme cases of bodily harm men suffer much less than is commonly supposed. Rustem Pasha, Turkish ambassador in London, was once attacked by a bear, which tore off part of his hand and part of his arm and shoulder. He affirmed afterward that he felt no sense of fear or pain. What occupied his mind was a feeling of anger "because the bear grunted with so much satisfaction while thus engaged."

Sir Edward Bradford, an Indian officer, bears similar testimony. He was seized by a tiger, which held him with one paw, and then deliberately devoured the whole of his arm, beginning at the hand and ending at the shoulder. He, too, is sure that he felt no fear. He believes he felt a little pain when the fangs went through his hand, but feels certain that he felt none when the tiger was munching his arm.

The author of "Among Men and Horses," from whose book the foregoing facts have been gathered, relates an experience of his own, bearing upon the same point.

He was walking unarmed through an Indian jungle, when a tiger sprang up almost at his feet. "For probably two seconds, which seemed as many years," says Mr. Hayes, "he raced round me, while I stood stock still, wondering why I could not put out my hand and catch him by the tail. That was the only thought that occupied my mind during those eventful moments, until, with a bound and a growl, the tiger disappeared into the thick underbrush."

THEY LOVE THE THEATER.

Havana Residents, Though Few, Support Grand Opera for Months at a Time.

One of the oddest places in Havana is the theater. Here, as elsewhere, the men and women are seated apart. In some of them, at the end of each act the house is emptied, and patrons are compelled to purchase a ticket for every act of the performance. It is a sort of seeing the show on the European plan. In connection with the theater, however, it is worthy to note that Havana is probably the only city of a little over a quarter of a million population on this continent that supports comic and grand opera for consecutive months, with seats selling for three dollars and upward, says the Boston Transcript. The home of opera is the Tacon theater, which was erected in 1837 at a cost of four hundred thousand dollars, since which time more than thirty-five thousand dollars has been expended at different times in repairing it. There are fourteen exits, and the seating capacity is said to be four thousand two hundred and fifty. A visit to this house on an evening when some favorite prima donna is to appear is one long to be remembered.

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